



[ CITY OF ]

OTTUMWA

TENTATIVE AGENDA  
OTTUMWA CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING NO. 13  
Bridge View Center, 102 Church St.

April 1, 2025  
5:30 O'Clock P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Council Member McAntire, Caviness, Reid, Galloway, Hoffman and Mayor Johnson.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. This is the time, place and date set for a public hearing on the proposed Property Tax Levy for the City of Ottumwa, Fiscal Year 25/26.
  - A. Open the public hearing.
  - B. Close the public hearing.

*All items on this agenda are subject to discussion and/or action.*

ADJOURN

**\*\*\* It is the goal of the City of Ottumwa that all City Council public meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. If you need assistance in participating in City Council meetings due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the City Clerk's Office at (641) 683-0621 at least one (1) business day prior to the scheduled meeting to request an accommodation. \*\*\***



| CITY OF |  
O T T U M W A

**FAX COVER SHEET**

City of Ottumwa

DATE: 3/27/2025 TIME: 1:00 PM NO. OF PAGES 2  
(Including Cover Sheet)

TO: News Media CO: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX NO: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: Christina Reinhard

FAX NO: 641-683-0613 PHONE NO: 641-683-0620

MEMO: Tentative Agenda for the Special City Council Meeting #13 to be held on 4/01/2025 at 5:30 P.M. at the Bridge View Center, 102 Church Street.

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 FAX MULTI TX REPORT  
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JOB NO. 0480  
 DEPT. ID 4717  
 PGS. 2

TX INCOMPLETE -----  
 TRANSACTION OK 916606271885  
 916416823269  
 ERROR 916416847834  
 916416828482

KTVO  
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DEPT. ID 4717  
ST. TIME 03/27 12:58  
SHEETS 2  
FILE NAME

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**received**  
3-26-25 840

# CITY OF OTTUMWA

## Staff Summary

**\*\* ACTION ITEM \*\***

Council Meeting of: Apr 1, 2025

Finance  
Department

O'Donnell  
Prepared By  
O'Donnell  
Department Head

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Administrator Approval

AGENDA TITLE: PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*Public hearing required if this box is checked.\*\*

\*\*The Proof of Publication for each Public Hearing must be attached to this Staff Summary. If the Proof of Publication is not attached, the item will not be placed on the agenda.\*\*

RECOMMENDATION: THIS IS A PUBLIC HEARING ONLY. NO ACTION REQUIRED.

DISCUSSION: See Attached.

Source of Funds: N/A

Budgeted Item:  Budget Amendment Needed: No



[ CITY OF ]  
O T T U M W A

TO: Mayor and Council  
CC: Phil Rath  
FROM: Cole S. O'Donnell  
DATE: March 26, 2025  
RE: Tax Levy Hearing

As required by Iowa Code, a hearing on the proposed tax levies must be held separate from the public hearing on the proposed budget. Taxable property valuations increased by 2.56%. As a result, individual funds may receive more funds without a levy increase. Changes are as follows:

Fund	FY 25 Levy	Proposed Levy	%Change	Revenue Increase	%Change
001	8.51942	8.51942	0.00%	\$146,793	2.52%
112	0.71472	0.79362	11.00%	\$331,384	6.62%
129	7.35351	7.61617	3.50%	\$ 55,512	11.09%
200	4.22014	4.06475	-3.60%	(\$335,507)	-10.15%
Total	20.80779	20.99396	0.80%	\$198,182	1.35%

What are the tax levies paying for:

- General Fund (001): \$5,967,384 directly plus \$4,593,809 from Fund 112 for benefits. This is 71% of all tax revenue received. The General Fund includes all public safety operations, Community Development, Parks/Recreation, and Administration.
- Tort Liability (129): \$555,887 for property and liability insurance for General Fund, Library, and Cemetery only.
- Debt Service (200): \$2,971,219 for GO debt obligations. An additional \$1,904,517 is transferred into the fund to pay or partially pay for certain specific use debt.

Effect on a residential and commercial property:

100% Valuation Increase	Taxable Valuation	Annual Tax Increase	Monthly Tax
\$100,000	\$47,432	\$8.83	\$0.74
\$300,000	\$135,712	\$25.27	\$2.11

Cole S. O'Donnell, Finance Director  
105 East Third Street, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501  
Telephone 641-683-0622 Fax 641-683-0613  
odonnellc@ottumwa.us

Reasons for increases:

Property and liability insurance rates continue to have annual increases as ICAP continues to replenish reserves depleted due to multiple natural disasters. Employee benefits have seen moderate increases, however, it has now become necessary to levy for benefits for employees in the street departments. In FY 26, one quarter of the benefit costs are levied for. An additional one quarter of the benefits are being funded from insurance reserves as is the retiree insurance premiums. Future budgets will need to begin levying for 100% of both expenses.

Additionally, the General Fund portion of the benefits levies (112) is reduced by \$100,000 and the cost of benefits will not be fully covered by the levies. This is part of the City's effort to meet levy reductions mandated by the State of Iowa in HF 718. The consolidated General Fund Levy must be at its maximum in order to levy for benefits. The reduced benefits levy amount is equal to 0.139.

Cole S. O'Donnell, Finance Director  
105 East Third Street, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501  
Telephone 641-683-0622 Fax 641-683-0613  
odonnellc@ottumwa.us

# PROOF OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF IOWA  
WAPELLO COUNTY

I, Kyle Ocker, being duly sworn on my oath, say that I am the General Manager of the Ottumwa Courier, a newspaper printed in said Wapello County, Iowa and of general circulation there in, and that the advertisement  
PROPERTY TAX LEVY

CITY OF OTTUMWA

hereto attached was published in said newspaper for one consecutive weeks to-wit:

03/15/2025



Subscribed and sworn to before me, and in my presence, by the said 21st day of March, 2025



Traci Counterman

Notary Public

In and for Wapello County



Printer's Fee: \$ 63.95

## COPY OF ADVERTISEMENT

Iowa Department of Management	Current Year Certified Property Tax 2024 - 2025	Budget Year Effective Property Tax 2025 - 2026	Budget Year Proposed Property Tax 2025 - 2026
Taxable Valuations for Non-Debt Service	682,284,914	700,444,920	700,444,920
Consolidated General Fund	5,812,672	5,812,672	5,967,384
Operation & Maintenance of Public Transit	0	0	0
Aviation Authority	0	0	0
Liability, Property & Self Insurance	487,643	487,643	555,887
Support of Local Emergency Mgmt. Comm.	0	0	0
Unified Law Enforcement	0	0	0
Police & Fire Retirement	1,227,301	1,227,301	1,324,100
FICA & IPERS (If at General Fund Limit)	839,640	839,640	913,611
Other Employee Benefits	2,950,248	2,950,248	3,096,996
Capital Projects (Capital Improv. Reserve)	0	0	0
Taxable Value for Debt Service	717,367,765	730,972,208	730,972,208
Debt Service	3,027,392	3,027,392	2,971,219
<b>CITY REGULAR TOTAL PROPERTY TAX</b>	<b>14,344,896</b>	<b>14,344,896</b>	<b>14,829,197</b>
<b>CITY REGULAR TAX RATE</b>	<b>20.80779</b>	<b>20.29919</b>	<b>20.99396</b>
Taxable Value for City Ag Land	996,930	1,023,968	1,023,968
Ag Land	2,995	2,995	3,076
<b>CITY AG LAND TAX RATE</b>	<b>3.00375</b>	<b>2.92490</b>	<b>3.00375</b>
<b>Tax Rate Comparison-Current VS. Proposed</b>			
Residential property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$100,000/\$110,000	<b>Current Year Certified 2024/2025</b>	<b>Budget Year Proposed 2025/2026</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
City Regular Residential	964	1,095	13.59
Commercial property with an Actual/Assessed Valuation of \$300,000/\$330,000	<b>Current Year Certified 2024/2025</b>	<b>Budget Year Proposed 2025/2026</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
City Regular Commercial	4,255	4,895	15.04

Note: Actual/Assessed Valuation is multiplied by a Rollback Percentage to get to the Taxable Valuation to calculate Property Taxes. Residential and Commercial properties have the same Rollback Percentage at \$100,000 Actual/Assessed Valuation.

**Reasons for tax increase if proposed exceeds the current:**  
Property and Liability Levy increase due to premium increase. Benefits Levies increased due to addition of RUTF employees benefits being levied + additional costs.